

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 NAHA 00490 301153Z

50

ACTION PM-04

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 AID-05 CEQ-01 CIAE-00 OFA-01

COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 EPA-01 INR-07 IO-10 L-03 NSF-01

NSC-05 NSAE-00 USIA-06 OES-03 SS-15 SP-02 FEAE-00

INT-05 PA-01 PRS-01 /086 W

----- 048424

R 300811Z SEP 75

FM AMCONSUL NAHA

TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 1859

COMUS JAPAN YOKOTA AB

USAGO MAKIMINATO

18TH TFW KADENA

MARCORB CAMP BUTLER

OAC CAMP BUTLER

OAF0 CAMP BUTLER

COMFLEACTS OKINAWA

CINCPAC//FOR POLAD//

C O N F I D E N T I A L NAHA 490

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, JA

SUBJ: BASE POLLUTION INCIDENT ON OKINAWA

SUMMARY: BASE POLLUTION ISSUE RIDES ALONG, BUT SOMEWHAT DEFLATED.

END SUMMARY

1. THE OKINAWAN PRESS CONTINUES ITS ATTENTION TO THE ISSUE

PAGE 2 RHAIBQA5720 C O N F I D E N T I A L

OF POLLUTION FROM AMERICAN MILITARY BASES, ALTHOUGH FOR THE PRESENT AT LEAST IN A MORE SUBDUED FASHION. THE MAIN STORY NOW IS THE PHYSICAL EXAMINATIONS JUST BEGUN FOR ACTIVE EMPLOYEES OF THE MAKIMINATO SERVICE AREA WHO HAD CONTACT WITH THE INDUSTRIAL DETERGENT INVOLVED IN THE LAST FLAP OR WITH OTHER STRONG COMPOUNDS. NO SERIOUS PHYSICAL

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 NAHA 00490 301153Z

DISABILITIES ARE YET KNOWN BUT THE PRESS OBVIOUSLY WILL BE

HOPING FOR SOME. THE OTHER CURRENT STORY IS THE PREFECTURAL ASSEMBLY PROTEST OVER THE ARMY POLLUTION INCIDENT WHICH IS BEING MADE IN PERSON TO VARIOUS USG AND GOJ OFFICES IN TOKYO IN THE USUAL FASHION BY A DELEGATION OF ASSEMBLYMEN. THE PROTEST ASKS FOR EARLY HEALTH EXAMS FOR FORMER EMPLOYEES, OVERALL ENVIRONMENTAL INSPECTION OF US BASES, APPLICATION OF JAPANESE LAW ON POLLUTION AND LABOR STANDARDS TO THE BASES, AND RIGHT OF ACCESS TO US BASES FOR DIET MEMBERS, ASSEMBLYMEN, ETC.

2. COMMENT: THE WIND HAS BEEN PARTLY TAKEN OUT OF THIS USEFUL ISSUE FOR THE LEFTISTS BY TWO STORIES THAT THE PRESS RECENTLY HAVE HAD TO CARRY. ONE INVOLVED THE ANNOUNCED FINDINGS OF THE GOJ LABOR STANDARDS BUREAU THAT THE HEALTH AND SAFETY STANDARDS IN THE WORKSHOP IN THE MAKIMINATO SERVICE AREA INVOLVED WITH THE RECENT

PAGE 3 RHAIBQA5720 C O N F I D E N T I A L

INDUSTRIAL SOLVENT SPILL WERE BETTER THAN IN COMPARABLE CIVILIAN WORK-

SHOPS. THE OTHER WAS THE REVELATION THAT THE PREFECTURAL GOVT ENVIRONMENT AND HEALTH DEPT HAD RECEIVED MUCH DATA ON THE COMPOUNDS USED IN THE SERVICE AREA ALMOST TWO YEARS EARLIER THROUGH THE JOINT ARMY-PREFECTURE ENVIRONMENT INVESTIGATIVE COMMITTEE, BUT HAD NOT DONE MUCH ABOUT IT. LEFTIST AND PRESS COMPLAINT THUS SHIFTED IN PART AWAY FROM THE US MILITARY AGAINST THESE TWO GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES.

3. ACTIONS BY OUR MILITARY AUTHORITIES HAVE ALSO HELPED DAMP THIS ISSUE. THE ARMY ANNOUNCED A SPECIAL THREE-MONTH ANTI-POLLUTION AND ENVIRONMENTAL ENHANCEMENT CAMPAIGN BOTH TO INCREASE AWARENESS OF THE DANGERS OF POLLUTION AND ELIMINATE ON-BASE CAUSES. ALSO HELPFUL WERE THE TELEVISED REMARKS OF THE OKINAWA AREA COORDINATOR NOTING THAT OUR OTHER SERVICES WERE CONSIDERING JOINING WITH THE ARMY IN THE JOINT ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE WITH THE PREFECTURE.

4. THE EXCITEMENT OVER THE LAST SPILL INVOLVING THE HEXAVALENT CHROMIUM HAS HOPEFULLY PASSED, UNLESS THE PHYSICAL EXAMS SHOW SOMETHING SENSATIONAL. THE ISSUE OF BASE POLLUTION HAS PROVEN, HOWEVER, READILY EXPLOITABLE BY THE LEFTISTS AGAINST AMERICAN INTERESTS

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 NAHA 00490 301153Z

PAGE 4 RHAIBQA5720 C O N F I D E N T I A L

ON OKINAWA. WE THUS NEED NOT ONLY TO DO OUR BEST TO FORESTALL POLLUTION INCIDENTS BUT, THROUGH ARRANGEMENTS WITH THE GOJ OR PREFECTURE, TO GET IN THE BEST POSSIBLE POLITICAL POSTURE IN THE EVENT OF FUTURE POLLUTION ACCIDENTS

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** POLLUTION, PRESS COMMENTS, MILITARY BASES, DETERGENTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 30 SEP 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** izenbei0  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975NAHA00490  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750338-0890  
**From:** NAHA  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t1975091/aaaaapr.tel  
**Line Count:** 112  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION PM  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** izenbei0  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 16 JUL 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <16 JUL 2003 by MartinML>; APPROVED <19 NOV 2003 by izenbei0>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
06 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** BASE POLLUTION INCIDENT ON OKINAWA SUMMARY: BASE POLLUTION ISSUE RIDES ALONG, BUT SOMEWHAT DEFLATED.  
**TAGS:** MARR, JA, US  
**To:** TOKYO  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006